

**POSITION VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT FOR
APPOINTMENT OF A SPECIAL TRIAL JUDGE
UNITED STATES TAX COURT**

Salary: AD-0905-\$180,990

Receipt of Applications: October 5, 2015 through November 9, 2015

Expected Appointment: Summer of 2016

Retirement System: Federal Employees Retirement System (FERS)

Area of Consideration: All Sources (U.S. Citizenship is Required)

Duties: In accordance with I.R.C. section 7443A(a), Special Trial Judges are authorized to hear and decide any case involving tax deficiencies of \$50,000 or less (per taxable year), as well as any collection due process, declaratory judgment, employment classification, or whistleblower award case of any amount. Deficiency cases involving amounts greater than \$50,000 may be assigned by the Chief Judge to be heard by a Special Trial Judge with the decisions to be entered by a Presidentially appointed Judge, in accordance with I.R.C. section 7443A(b). More specifically, the duties of the position are demanding and wide-ranging and include the following:

- Travel to approximately 75 U.S. cities to conduct trials and pretrial proceedings and decide cases as more fully described in I.R.C. section 7443A(b);
- Responsible for promptly concluding action through written opinion, order, settlement, or other disposition of a large volume of cases in small case trial sessions assigned to the Special Trial Judge;
- May be called upon to oversee the Court's handling of motions received in cases in the general docket and to prepare orders and opinions disposing of those motions;
- May be called upon to assist Presidentially appointed Judges in the disposition of procedural matters, such as motions to conduct an in camera review of documents, and in the disposition of cases, such as by assisting settlement discussions;
- Responsible for independently managing caseloads and chambers effectively with the assistance of chambers staff;
- May be appointed as a member of any standing or ad hoc committee of the Tax Court as assigned by the Chief Judge of the United States Tax Court;
- May be called upon to represent the Court by speaking before bar-related CLE programs, especially those designed to assist pro se taxpayers and attorneys who assist low income taxpayer clinics and calendar call programs which provide assistance for unrepresented petitioners; and
- May perform administrative duties as assigned by the Chief Judge of the Tax Court.

Qualification Requirements: To be qualified and considered for appointment, an applicant must:

- (1) Have been admitted to practice before and be a member in good standing of the bar of the highest court of any State, the District of Columbia, or any commonwealth, territory, or possession of the United States, and have been engaged in the active practice of tax law before the United States Tax Court or other Federal courts, or have served in private or public sector or academic positions providing experience relevant to practice before the United States Tax Court, or have other experience relating to Tax Court practice and procedure for a period of at least 5 years;
- (2) Be competent to perform all the duties of the office; be of good moral character; be committed to equal justice under the law; be patient and courteous; and be capable of deliberation and decisiveness; and
- (3) At the time of appointment, not be related to a Judge of the United States Tax Court. (Not be related by blood or marriage within the degree of relationship specified in 28 U.S.C. section 458, i.e., “by affinity or consanguinity within the degree of first cousin”.)

Benefits:

Special Trial Judges are subject to the Leave Act and the position conveys Federal benefits, including the Federal Employees’ Retirement System (FERS); Federal Employees’ Health Benefits Program (FEHB); Federal Employees’ Group Life Insurance (FEGLI) Program; Federal Employees’ Dental and Vision Insurance Program (FEDVIP); Flexible Spending Account (FSA); Thrift Savings Plan (TSP); Federal Long Term Care Insurance Program (FLTCIP); and the Transportation Subsidy Program. (See www.opm.gov/insure and www.opm.gov/retire/pre/index.asp)

Additional Information:

- A selection panel shall review all applications, conduct interviews and make any recommendations of the best-qualified candidates to the Chief Judge.
- Appropriate background investigation, to include criminal, tax and credit check will be conducted on candidate selected.
- Expenses incurred to travel for an interview will not be reimbursed by the Tax Court.
- Moving expenses may be paid by the Tax Court.
- U.S. Citizenship is required.
- All applications and the panel's deliberations shall remain confidential.

How To Apply:

All applicants must submit a resume to include all relevant employment history, as well as a cover letter describing both personal and professional attributes that exemplify superior qualifications for this position. All applicants must submit an original application package and six copies for review by a panel. **Applications should be addressed “Personal and Confidential” to the attention of Ellene P. Footer, Director, Office of Human Resources, and submitted to Human Resources, Room 106, 400 Second Street, NW, Washington, DC 20217.**

The United States Tax Court is an Equal Opportunity Employer.